

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 1204 – HB 2367

February 2, 2010

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (013810): Requires the clinical laboratory or physician to bill for anatomic pathology services directly to the referring laboratory or referring physician if the physician in the laboratory is performing or supervising the services or has provided written confirmation that the patient is not covered under any health care benefit program. Defines "health care benefit program" as any public or private plan or contract under which any medical benefit item or service is provided to any individual and establishes billing practices in certain circumstances for anatomic pathology services by referring physicians and laboratories. Grants the Boards of Medical Examiners and Osteopathic Examiners the authority to deny, suspend, or revoke a license if a physician is not in compliance with the provisions of the bill. The bill as amended will take effect July 1, 2010.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- The Boards of Medical Examiners and Osteopathic Examiners will not incur a significant increase in expenditures to investigate and prosecute any violations of the provisions of the bill. Any cost will not be significant and can be accommodated within the existing resources of the Boards.
- The Boards will notify practitioners of the proposed regulations through newsletters and postings on the Web site. Any cost will not be significant and can be accommodated within the existing resources of the Boards.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-3-1011, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. As of June 30, 2008, the Board of Medical Examiners had a positive balance of \$108,302.81.
- The Board of Osteopathic Examiners had positive balances of \$777.53 in FY06-07 and \$18,323.96 in FY07-08. As of June 30, 2008, the Board had a cumulative negative balance of \$47,354.67.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director

/kml